GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1410
ANSWERED ON:29.10.2008
NURSING STAFF- PATIENTS RATIO
Barad Shri Jashubhai Dhanabhai

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the nursing staff is falling short for the patients and the nursing staff-patients ratio in the country is much lower as compared to the international standards;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the steps taken by the Government in this regard?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE FOR HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE (SMT. PANABAKA LAKSHMI)

(a) & (b) The over all nurse bed ratio varies from 1:3 to 1:10 depending on the bed strength of the units/hospitals. As per World Health Organization there is no standard ratio of nurse to hospital beds. It depends greatly on patient need for nursing, support to nurses in giving patient care and their expected roles and responsibilities.

(c) In order to make improvement in the nursing services, a sum of Rs. 2900.00 crores has been allocated during the XIth Plan period under the Up-gradation/Strengthening of Nursing Services. The following activities are proposed for the XIth Plan period.

(i) Establishment of Auxiliary Nurse Midwifery (ANM) Schools in those districts, which are not having any ANM training School

(ii) Establishment of General Nursing and Midwifery (GNM) Schools in those districts, where there is no GNM Schools.

(iii) Establishment of 6 Colleges of Nursing at sites for AIIMS like Institutions with both B.Sc. (N) and M.Sc Nursing programmes.

(iv) Establishment of 4 Regional Institutes with the objective of improving the standard on all India basis and provide opportunity to access high quality Nursing Education through out the country.

(v) Establishment of Centers of Excellence in Nursing in States.

(vi) Strengthening of State Nursing Councils.

(vii) Strengthening of Nursing Cells at the State level.